



CLASSIFIED TELEGRAM

CONTROL NUMBER

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

40317

DISTRIBUTION

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

PRECEDENCE

PRIORITY

NIACT

ORIG DTG: 17 JAN 10 PM

RECD: 17 JAN 2250

FROM: DUSSELDORF

SENT: DEPT 73

RPTD INFO: NIACT BONN 99

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3821
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

PDB
18 JAN 53

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ACT: CH

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MEMBERS OF NRW FDP CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE CONSIDERABLE AGITATION OVER REPERCUSSIONS BRITISH ARREST ON THURSDAY OF WERNER NAUMANN AND OTHER ALLEGED CONSPIRATORS. THEY ARE NATURALLY HIGHLY INDIGNANT OVER STATEMENT BY KIRKPATRICK THAT FDP HAS BEEN INFILTRATED BY ELEMENTS CONSPIRING AGAINST SAFETY OF ALLIED FORCES. FOLLOWING INFORMATION GIVEN US THIS EVENING BY WOLFGANG DOERING, WHO IS FDP LAND SECRETARY AND CLOSE COLLABORATOR OF MÜLLENHAUSE.

FDP LAND ORGANIZATION WILL HOLD MEETING SUNDAY JANUARY 18 TO DISCUSS PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH PARTY PLANS GIVE IN DUSSELDORF MONDAY MORNING JANUARY 19. PRESS CONFERENCE IS DESCRIBED BY DOERING AS INTENDED NOT TO DEFEND FDP BUT TO "COUNTERATTACK" AGAINST KIRKPATRICK'S ACCUSATION OF FDP. PARTY WILL DEMAND THAT BRITAIN REVEAL IMMEDIATELY WHAT EVIDENCE THEY HAVE TO SUPPORT THIS "COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED CHARGE." PARTY WILL ALSO STATE ACCORDING DOERING THAT IMMEDIATE CLARIFICATION IS NEEDED OF ALLEGED STATEMENT BY BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICER SPOKESMAN THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS COULD HAVE BEEN ARRESTED EVEN IF CONTRACTUALS ALREADY IN FORCE. DOERING EVEN PREDICTED AT OUTSET THAT PARTY WOULD STATE IT COULD NOT SUPPORT RATIFICATION CONTRACTUALS UNTIL THIS POINT CLARIFIED, BUT DR. ERNEST ACHENBACH, WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT OUR TALK WITH DOERING, DOUBTED PUBLIC STATEMENT MONDAY WILL GO THIS FAR. DOERING DID NOT TAKE ISSUE WITH ACHENBACH ON THIS POINT.

DOERING INDICATED PARTY IS CONSIDERING MAKING PUBLIC REQUEST THAT AMERICAN SENATORS AND BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS COME TO GERMANY TO INVESTIGATE CHARGE THAT FDP MEMBERS INVOLVED IN ANY SUBVERSIVE CONSPIRACY.

DOERING QUOTED FDP BUNDESTAG DEPUTY VON RECHENBERG AS SAYING HE MAY ANNOUNCE PUBLICLY HE WILL NOT VOTE FOR

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CONTRACTUALS UNLESS AND UNTIL KIRKPATRICK HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN.

DOERING EMPHASIZED THROUGHOUT HIS OPINION THAT THE BRITISH ARRESTS, BY STIRRING UP FRESH SUSPICIONS THAT THERE IS A STRONG NEO-NAZI MOVEMENT IN FEDERAL REPUBLIC, WILL SERIOUSLY DAMAGE POSSIBILITY OF FRENCH RATIFICATION CONTRACTUALS.

HE MADE SIGNIFICANT REMARK THAT LIBERAL-LEFT WING OF FDP MAY SEIZE EXCUSE OF ACCUSATIONS AGAINST FDP'S RIGHT MIDDELHAUVE WING IN ORDER TO SPLIT PARTY.

BOTH DOERING AND ACHENBACH HINTED THAT MIDDELHAUVE OR SOME OTHER LEADING FDP PERSONALITY THIS LAND WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ENTIRE CASE WITH HIGHEST POSSIBLE AMERICAN OFFICIAL IN MEHLEN PRIOR MONDAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE. THEY DID NOT SAY HOWEVER THAT MIDDELHAUVE HAD ASKED THEM TO TRANSMIT SUCH A REQUEST AND WE BELIEVE THEY ARE EXPRESSING MERELY THEIR OWN WISHES.

DOERING EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY THAT NEITHER HE NOR HIS COLLEAGUES HAVE HAD OTHER THAN A FEW CASUAL CONTACTS WITH ANY OF ARRESTED INDIVIDUALS. ALSO STRESSED THAT HE HAD PASSED ON TO BRITIAN DEROGATORY INFORMATION ON SOME OF PERSONS ON ARREST LIST, PARTICULARLY ON CONNECTIONS BETWEEN BORNEMANN AND COMMUNIST.

COMMENT: WHILE IT IS VERY DIFFICULT AS YET PREDICT JUST HOW FAR INDIGNATION MIDDELHAUVE AND HIS COHORTS WILL GO, WE BELIEVE IT IS WITHIN REALM POSSIBILITY THAT THE RIGHT WING OF FDP OR AT LEAST ITS ORGANIZATION IN NRW WILL EVENTUALLY ADOPT POSITION THAT IT CANNOT SUPPORT RATIFICATION OF CONTRACTUALS UNLESS KIRKPATRICK'S CHARGE IS WITHDRAWN AND THE PARTY'S HONOR SUITABLY RESTORED. THIS THREAT HAS NOT BEEN MADE AS YET BUT IT SEEMS TO BE IN THE AIR. AT PRESENT MOMENT IT SEEMS UNLIKELY SUCH THREAT WILL BE MADE AT MONDAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE, THE TONE OF WHICH HOWEVER WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE BITTERLY ANTI BRITISH.

IT SEEMS LIKELY MIDDELHAUVE WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO CONVERSE WITH REBER OR CHIPMAN TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AND IT MIGHT HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON MONDAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE IF HIS TEMPER COULD BE SOOTHER SOMEWHAT BY REASSURING STATEMENTS.

WE DO NOT INTEND PASS ANY OF FOREGOING INFORMATION TO BRITISH AT PRESENT TIME BECAUSE MIDDELHAUVE'S GROUP IS FURIOUS WITH BRITIAN AND WOULD PROBABLY ABRUPTLY TERMINATE THEIR CONTACTS WITH US HERE IF THEY

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HAD SLIGHTEST SUSPICION WE ARE TRANSMITTING INFORMATION TO BRITISH ON MATTER. MOREOVER, HEAD OF BRITISH POLITICAL SECTION HERE INFORMED US LAST NIGHT THAT KIRKPATRICK'S INSTRUCTIONS NO INFORMATION ON ENTIRE AFFAIR WILL BE PASSED TO AMERICANS OR FRENCH EXCEPT AT VERY HIGH LEVEL.

CHALKER

MR. LAMPSON NOTIFIED AT 2400 HOUR 17 JAN 53.

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